

# Transcript of the President's News Conference

Special to THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

WASHINGTON—Following is the transcript of President Eisenhower's news conference yesterday:

**THE PRESIDENT:** Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Please sit down.

I just had a message from Walter Reed, said that the Secretary was doing very well indeed and that—had reacted beautifully to this new treatment that they are—or this special treatment they gave him yesterday.

## SAC Planes on Ground Alert

Q—(Merriman Smith, United Press International): Mr. President, sir, against the background of continuing tension between the East and West, could we ask, for a moment, about the debated need for increasing the defense strength of this country?

I ask specifically, sir, whether you feel that the present 15-minute ground alert for SAC is sufficient, or would you prefer, in times such as these, to have an airborne alert?

**THE PRESIDENT:** Well, no. I think the Smith, from time to time, talking to me with questions which we'd both been familiar in the past. I don't think I ever asked him as a permanent advisor, at least I don't recall it if I did, Mr. Reston. And it has not been suggested at this moment.

## First Blow in War

Q—(Garnett D. Horner, Washington Star): Mr. President, this question arises, sir, from a statement by Secretary of Defense McElroy in testimony before a House committee Monday—that, while it is still our policy not to strike the first blow in any possible future war, whether that is always true in the future is another matter.

Could you say if you can foresee any circumstances in which we might, so to speak, strike the first blow against a possible aggressor?

**THE PRESIDENT:** No, Mr. Horner. This is why, I will discuss that for a moment in this fashion: The right of self-preservation is just as instinctive and natural for a nation as it is for the individual. Therefore, if we know we are, at any moment, under a threat of attack, as would be evidenced by missiles or planes coming in our direction, then we have to act just as rapidly as is possible, humanly possible to defend ourselves.

But when you go beyond that point, I don't know exactly what this conversation meant, for the simple reason that I'm quite sure the Congress is not thinking of amending the Constitution and putting in the hands of the President the right to declare war. This is a Congressional function and it must be observed. But I do point out that when you have got certain circumstances that put your life or could put your life or the Nation's life right at stake, then there is no time and whatever would be necessary, the President would then order.

Now, you know I'm—I'm certainly far from a complacent person. On the other hand, I don't think we ought to be thinking all the time, every minute, that while we are sitting

here, we are going to—we are very apt to get a bombing attack on Washington. There is—the reason we have very great and expensive intelligence forces is to keep us informed as well as they possibly can. So, I don't believe we ought to be arguing some points too much, of this kind, because I believe we create more misapprehension than we do understanding.

## Commiserating With Rockefeller

Q—(Carleton Kent, Chicago Sun): Mr. President, last week a White House report that you had commiserated with Rockefeller's budget troubles.

Could you tell me, sir, what you said to him at that time?

**THE PRESIDENT:** Q—(Mr. Kent): I called at the White House and I sent Nelson Rockefeller a note a few days ago.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Well, I sent Nelson Rockefeller a note a few days ago. I don't think I ever asked him as a permanent advisor, at least I don't recall it if I did, Mr. Reston. And it has not been suggested at this moment.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Well, no. I think the Smith, from time to time, talking to me with questions which we'd both been familiar in the past. I don't think I ever asked him as a permanent advisor, at least I don't recall it if I did, Mr. Reston. And it has not been suggested at this moment.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Well, no. I think the Smith, from time to time, talking to me with questions which we'd both been familiar in the past. I don't think I ever asked him as a permanent advisor, at least I don't recall it if I did, Mr. Reston. And it has not been suggested at this moment.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Well, no. I think the Smith, from time to time, talking to me with questions which we'd both been familiar in the past. I don't think I ever asked him as a permanent advisor, at least I don't recall it if I did, Mr. Reston. And it has not been suggested at this moment.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Well, no. I think the Smith, from time to time, talking to me with questions which we'd both been familiar in the past. I don't think I ever asked him as a permanent advisor, at least I don't recall it if I did, Mr. Reston. And it has not been suggested at this moment.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Well, no. I think the Smith, from time to time, talking to me with questions which we'd both been familiar in the past. I don't think I ever asked him as a permanent advisor, at least I don't recall it if I did, Mr. Reston. And it has not been suggested at this moment.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Well, no. I think the Smith, from time to time, talking to me with questions which we'd both been familiar in the past. I don't think I ever asked him as a permanent advisor, at least I don't recall it if I did, Mr. Reston. And it has not been suggested at this moment.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Well, no. I think the Smith, from time to time, talking to me with questions which we'd both been familiar in the past. I don't think I ever asked him as a permanent advisor, at least I don't recall it if I did, Mr. Reston. And it has not been suggested at this moment.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Well, no. I think the Smith, from time to time, talking to me with questions which we'd both been familiar in the past. I don't think I ever asked him as a permanent advisor, at least I don't recall it if I did, Mr. Reston. And it has not been suggested at this moment.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Well, no. I think the Smith, from time to time, talking to me with questions which we'd both been familiar in the past. I don't think I ever asked him as a permanent advisor, at least I don't recall it if I did, Mr. Reston. And it has not been suggested at this moment.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Well, no. I think the Smith, from time to time, talking to me with questions which we'd both been familiar in the past. I don't think I ever asked him as a permanent advisor, at least I don't recall it if I did, Mr. Reston. And it has not been suggested at this moment.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Well, no. I think the Smith, from time to time, talking to me with questions which we'd both been familiar in the past. I don't think I ever asked him as a permanent advisor, at least I don't recall it if I did, Mr. Reston. And it has not been suggested at this moment.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Well, no. I think the Smith, from time to time, talking to me with questions which we'd both been familiar in the past. I don't think I ever asked him as a permanent advisor, at least I don't recall it if I did, Mr. Reston. And it has not been suggested at this moment.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Well, no. I think the Smith, from time to time, talking to me with questions which we'd both been familiar in the past. I don't think I ever asked him as a permanent advisor, at least I don't recall it if I did, Mr. Reston. And it has not been suggested at this moment.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Well, no. I think the Smith, from time to time, talking to me with questions which we'd both been familiar in the past. I don't think I ever asked him as a permanent advisor, at least I don't recall it if I did, Mr. Reston. And it has not been suggested at this moment.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Well, no. I think the Smith, from time to time, talking to me with questions which we'd both been familiar in the past. I don't think I ever asked him as a permanent advisor, at least I don't recall it if I did, Mr. Reston. And it has not been suggested at this moment.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Well, no. I think the Smith, from time to time, talking to me with questions which we'd both been familiar in the past. I don't think I ever asked him as a permanent advisor, at least I don't recall it if I did, Mr. Reston. And it has not been suggested at this moment.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Well, no. I think the Smith, from time to time, talking to me with questions which we'd both been familiar in the past. I don't think I ever asked him as a permanent advisor, at least I don't recall it if I did, Mr. Reston. And it has not been suggested at this moment.

# Conference

shares b acquired last Nov \$2,983,741

In the ended Ju holdings Corp., 7 Talcott, Owens-P Heller & Rubber

Comm final fisc Borg-Wa Pont Co Jewel T

Boston following the fine portation General ter Co., Gas Co Inc.

BOSTO Net asset Net asset Number of A-A cap share was payable in the share were distri

Vanadi VANADI for the ye Earned pe Sales Net income Capital

Both sales and earnings set new highs, the company said.

W. L. McKnight, chairman, and Herbert P. Buetow, president, commented, "In the first half of 1958, our sales were slightly behind the previous year's record pace while earnings were off 10% during the same period. Following the mid-year upturn in business activity most of the company's 24 major divisions and subsidiaries continued to follow industrial activity trends; however 3M divisions serving the printing, office copying, instrumentation and video tape recording fields continued to register important gains. In the final quarter our sales reached the \$100 million mark for the first time in the company's 56-year history. The improvement in earnings over the previous year is due in part to increased sales, but aggressive programs for improving operations constituted the major factor."

Research and development constituted an important part of company operations, the officials noted. Almost 25% of 1958 sales stemmed from products developed and marketed in the last five years. Among recent developments is a thermo-electric generator, which converts heat from a radioactive source into electricity, for possible use in missiles, "with greater efficiency than previously achieved."

The officials said, "while this device had been termed a breakthrough in some areas and offers immediate use in the missile and rocket fields, we believe that much remains to be done before commercial applications are forthcoming." The company spent about \$16.5 million, roughly 4% of sales, for laboratory activity during the year.

Capital expenditures for 1959 are estimated at \$20 million, most of which will go for programs authorized or under way. A major project nearing completion is a graphic products laboratory near St. Paul. Projects completed last year include a sales office and warehouse in St. Louis, modernization and expansion of facilities at Hartford City, Ind., and a pilot plant for the production of ceramic fuel elements for nuclear power reactors at Chattanooga, Tenn.

MINNESOTA MINING & MANUFACTURING CO. and domestic and Canadian subsidiaries report for the year ended December 31: